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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Research Administration
Animal Inspection and Quarantine Branch
Washington 25, D. C.

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MAR 5 1957

AIQ BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 610.4

February 13, 1957

To: All Air and Ocean Ports

From: L. C. Heemstra, Acting Chief of Branch

Subject: Prohibited Animals and Meats Aboard Vessels and Aircraft

I PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this memorandum to reemphasize the provision contained in section 306(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, which prohibits the importation into the United States of cattle, sheep, or other domestic ruminants, or swine, or fresh, chilled, or frozen beef, veal, mutton, lamb, or pork, from any country where the Secretary of Agriculture has determined that rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease exists; and to provide information and establish uniformity at all United States ports for the following purposes:

To prevent the entry into United States ports or its possessions of any vessel or aircraft having on board prohibited livestock.

To prevent the landing from any vessel or aircraft of fresh, chilled, or frozen meat sea stores, cargo, or otherwise, which has originated in or was laden in a country where rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease exists.

To control the handling or landing of garbage that might contain prohibited meats.

To outline a uniform procedure for issuance of forms and preparation of reports.

To prescribe procedures for the transshipment of certain foreign cured, cooked, or dried meats.

This memorandum cancels Circular Letter No. 2212, dated January 2, 1940; and Inspection and Quarantine Letter 52-14, dated September 4, 1952.

II POLICY

In carrying out duties and responsibilities as hereinafter set forth, Animal Inspection and Quarantine inspectors and other Government officials are to be guided by the provisions of section 306(a) of the Tariff Act of 1930, and the regulations promulgated thereunder as contained in 9 CFR 94, or any superseding regulations or administrative memorandums.

III COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

With the increasing number of foreign vessels and aircraft arriving at United States ports, it becomes essential for Inspectors in Charge to confer with officials of the Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare; the Bureau of Customs, Treasury Department; the Plant Quarantine Branch of this Department's Agricultural Research Service; and others having jurisdiction at air and ocean ports, regarding the exact procedures to be followed in respect to the enforcement of our regulations, particularly when an existing regulation is changed, in order to insure the prompt disposal of prohibited livestock, the exclusion of prohibited meats, and the proper handling of garbage and of meats for transshipment.

IV PROCEDURES

A. Shipmasters' Declaration and Warning Notice:

Form AIQ-43 (12-56) has been revised to combine the "Shipmasters' Declaration" and "Warning to Ship Captains Regarding Sea Stores Meats." Accordingly, Forms IQ-44 and AIQ-43 (9-54) become obsolete and should no longer be used, and any small quantities in stock should be disposed of.

At ports where satisfactory arrangements have been worked out between Inspectors in Charge of this Branch and officials of the Public Health Service, quarantine officers of that Service will continue to secure and mail or otherwise deliver to the local offices of the Animal Inspection and Quarantine Branch a Shipmasters' Declaration and Warning Notice (Form AIQ-43 - 12-56) for each first port of call vessel entering a port of the United States.

If the Declaration shows the presence on board of prohibited animals, the quarantine officer will immediately notify the local AIQ Branch office by telephone or telegraph, collect, unless other arrangements for such notification have been made. Specific arrangements should be made for the receipt of telephone or telegraphic messages for after office hours, Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal Holidays.